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(54) Title: EXPRESSION OF HYDROPHOBIC PROTEINS

(57) **Abstract:** Methods are disclosed for the design of non-native (*i.e.* heterologous) polypeptides comprising a proportion of hydrophobic amino acids which have an increased probability of being efficiently expressed in an expression system such as a bacterial host (*e.g.* *E. coli*). The methods involve identifying one or more hydrophobic peptide sequences within a polypeptide of interest, and arranging or re-locating at least one of the hydrophobic peptide sequences within said polypeptide so as to generate a candidate polypeptide with reduced amplitude in hydrophobicity and/or length of any hydrophobic region(s). Such methods are particularly useful for designing polypeptides, and specific examples of such are described for Epstein-Barr virus (EBV), hepatitis C virus (HCV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

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